

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00
SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01 AID-05
DODE-00 AGRE-00 IGA-02 /058 W
-----112317Z 015270 /70
P 112240Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 287

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EO 11652 : N/A
TAGS : SNAR MX
SUBJ : NARCOTICS CONTROL UPDATE

REF : MEXICO 1656

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION DEA HQS FEB 10 AS MEXICO'S 1656 BEING
REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION ALSO :

SUBJ : MEXICAN NARCOTICS CONTROL GF:TA-75-8059
CONDOR I, GF: TA-77-8001

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED RELATIVE TO
KIERE/COWARD TELECON OF 2/9/77.
A. OPERATION CONDOR - COORDINATION WITH THE
DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE (DAO) AND DEA FIELD PERSONNEL
IN CULIACAN, SINALOA, ON 10 FEB 1977 RESULTED IN THE
FOLLOWING UPDATE INFORMATION.
THE NUMBER OF TROOPS COMMITTED TO CONDOR I REMAINS AT
APPROXIMATELY 1200. DESIGNATED RESERVES HAVE NOT YET
BEEN CALLED. THERE HAVE BEEN NO CHANGES IN KEY PERSONNEL.
THE ARMY APPEARS TO BE PREPARING FOR SUSTAINED OPERATIONS
IN THE AREA WHICH REMAINS THE STATES OF SINALOA, CHIHUAHUA
AND DURANGO. FROM A MILITARY POINT OF VIEW, OPERATIONS
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ARE RUNNING SMOOTHLY. INITIAL PROBLEMS OF ARMY USING
AG SPRAY HELICOPTERS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN RESOLVED THOUGH
MILITARY STILL REQUIRES ADDITIONAL LOGISTICAL SUPPORT IN
THE FORM OF BETTER TRANSPORTATION TO IMPROVE EFFECTIVE-
NESS. TACTICAL OPERATIONS INVOLVE CLOCKWISE, SYSTEMATIC
SWEEPS OF 20 KILOMETER RADIAL SECTORS SURROUNDING TROOP
CONCENTRATIONS. TARGETS INCLUDE DESTRUCTION OF POPPY/MARIJUANA

FIELDS, DESTRUCTION OF CLANDESTINE AIRFIELDS, CONFISCATION OF GUM AND WEAPONS AS WELL AS THE DETENTION OF SOME PERSONNEL.

THE CULIACAN PRESS REPORTED ON MORNING OF 10 FEB 1977, THE FOLLOWING STATISTICS REGARDING CONDOR I IN FIRST 25 DAYS OF OPERATION:

- A) POPPY DESTRUCTION - 4543 FIELDS EQUALLING 960 HECTARES
- B) 713 MARIJUANA FIELDS DESTROYED
- C) 100 TONS OF MARIJUANA CONFISCATED
- D) 2 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN
- E) 31 KILOS OF POPPY SEED
- F) 120 KILOS OF MARIJUANA SEED
- G) 1008 WEAPONS
- H) 16 VEHICLES
- I) 23 JARS OF ASSORTED CHEMICALS
- J) 4 HEROIN LABORATORIES
- K) 50 PERSONS DETAINED (THIS FIGURE WAS REPORTED AS A CORRECTION TO EARLIER FIGURE OF 700 ARRESTS.

NO OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OF THE ABOVE FIGURES HAS YET BEEN RECEIVED. DEA FIELD AND REGIONAL PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN TASKED TO OBTAIN DATA FROM OFFICIAL (MFJP AND/OR MILITARY) SOURCES ALONG WITH PERTINENT BACKGROUND INFORMATION.

RIU PREPARED DEA-6 OF 27 JAN 1977 OUTLINING CONDOR I OPERATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS TO NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT. DAO PREPARED MORE DETAILED INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT (IIR) #6-864-0017-77 DATED 28 JAN 1977.

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DAO CURRENTLY HAS TWO OFFICERS IN CULIACAN AREA MAKING SURVEY OF CONDOR I OPERATIONS. DEA RIU PERSONNEL HAVE MAINTAINED LIAISON WITH DAO AND PROVIDED GUIDANCE REGARDING DEA INTERESTS. REPORTS ARE EXPECTED BY DAO PERSONNEL ON OR ABOUT MONDAY, 14 FEB 1977.

CONDOR II OPERATIONS OF SIMILAR CHARACTER TO CONDOR I, REPORTEDLY ARE UNDERWAY IN THE STATE OF MICHOACAN, BUT NO CONFIRMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED AT THIS TIME. REPORTING ALSO HAS BEEN RECEIVED THAT MILITARY OPERATIONS EVENTUALLY MAY BE EXTENDED INTO GUERRERO.

B. PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO'S TRIP TO WASHINGTON - MCRO HAS DETERMINED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL OSCAR FLORES SANCHEZ WILL NOT ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO TO WASHINGTON.

C. PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO'S REMARKS ON THE TREATY OF PENAL SENTENCES - ON PENDING TREATY, JLP SAID THAT " ALL NORTH AMERICAN PRISONERS CAN BE EXCHANGED FOR MEXICAN PRISONERS AS SOON

AS THIS IS DESIRED BY THE US". (I.E. AS SOON AS US APPROVES THE TREATY ON WHICH GOM HAS NOW COMPLETED ACTION.) HE ADDED THAT "IT MUST BE SAID THAT OUR CONGRESS HAS RESISTED THE PROPOSAL THAT PERSONS ARRESTED ON DRUG OFFENSES BE RELEASED ON PAROLE. IN MEXICO, WE CONSIDER SUCH CRIMES AGAINST HEALTH TO BE SERIOUS AND FOR THAT REASON WE TEND TO PLACE HARSHER PENALTIES AND MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR SUCH PERSONS TO BE SET FREE." HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT THE PROPOSED EXCHANGE SHOULD RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF AMERICAN PRISONERS INCARCERATED IN MEXICAN JAILS. JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO CLARIFY WITH PRESIDENT CARTER THE REAL INTEREST OF THE U.S. WITH REGARD TO THE DRUG QUESTION. "ON ONE HAND, THE U.S. ASKS US (MEXICO) TO MAKE A GREATER EFFORT TO CONTROL DRUG TRAFFICKING WHILE ON THE OTHER HAND TO REDUCE THE SENTENCES OF THOSE CONVICTED FOR DEALING IN THESE ACTIVITIES." (SEE EMBASSY MEXICO 1592 OF 9 FEB 1977.)

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D. ALLEGED FRAUDULENT PRACTICES IN MEXICAN DRUG INDUSTRY - MEXICAN PRESS OF 9 FEB 1977 REPORTED POSSIBILITY OF FRAUD IN DISTRIBUTION OF THE INSTITUTO MEXICANO DEL SEGURO SOCIAL (IMSS). ARSENIO FARELL FLORES, DIRECTOR OF IMSS, STATED THE DIRECTOR OF THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUND CERTAIN MEDICINES WERE SOLD TO THE HOSPITAL OF 300 PERCENT MORE THAN RETAIL PRICE AND ESTIMATED THESE FRAUDULENT PRACTICES COULD AMOUNT TO "DOZENS OF MILLIONS OF PESOS." FARELL FLORES ADVISED THE PRESS THAT A "SWEEPING INVESTIGATION" IS UNDERWAY.

AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED TWENTY INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN DETAINED - FIVE IMSS OFFICIALS AND 15 PERSONS FROM UPPER LEVEL MANAGEMENT IN SQUIBB; SILANES; ELI LILLY; GLAXO DE MEXICO; SMITH, KLINE AND FRENCH; AND RUDEF, S.A.

PRESS EDITIONS OF 10 FEB 1977 QUOTE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AS STATING THERE IS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO PROSECUTE FOR FRAUD, INCLUDING FALSIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS AGAINST PUBLIC INTEREST. PRESS FURTHER REPORTS SIXTY THREE MEMBERS OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY HAVE APPLIED FOR AMPAROS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Type: TE
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